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ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	SS-00	EB-00	DINT-05
	H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10
	PA-02	OMB-01	INM-07	INRE-00	USIE-00	DEAE-00	SP-02
	DOEE-00	SNP-01	PRS-01	DS-01	SCT-02	P-02	T-01
	/055 W						

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P 132245Z JUN 89
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6241
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
USINT HAVANA
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BOGOTA 08834

SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, PINS, SNAR, EPET, PGOV, CO
SUBJECT: FARC SUPPLY NETWORK RAIDED IN BOGOTA; ELN PLOT
AGAINST ECOPETROL UNCOVERED; AND NORTHERN ELN
COMMANDER SEIZED

REF: BOGOTA 8402 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: SEVERAL GUERRILLA ACTIVISTS AND SUPPLIERS,
ALONG WITH ELN TERRORIST PLANS, HAVE FALLEN INTO
GOVERNMENT HANDS. POLICE ON JUNE 8-12 DISMANTLED A FARC
"COCAINE-FOR-GUNS" BARTER OPERATION IN BOGOTA, ABORTED
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AN ELN PLOT AGAINST ECOPETROL IN CALI, AND SEIZED OTHER
ELN TERRORIST PLANS AFTER CAPTURING A TOP ELN COMMANDER
IN THE NORTH. MEANWHILE, THE MINISTER OF MINES AND

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 30 OCT 2002 200201334

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ENERGY REITERATED HIS REVELATIONS ON ELN DESIGNS ON COLOMBIA'S COAL, OIL, AND GOLD PRODUCING ZONES IN THE NORTH. END SUMMARY.

"COCAINE FOR GUNS" FARC TEAM SEIZED IN BOGOTA

2. (U) NATIONAL POLICE DETECTIVES DISMANTLED ON JUNE 11 A FARC SUPPLY NETWORK ENGAGED IN A COCAINE-FOR-GUNS BARTER OPERATION IN BOGOTA, ACCORDING TO POLICE REPORTS IN THE PRESS. THE POLICE RAIDED A FARC SAFE HOUSE IN SOUTHERN BOGOTA AND ARRESTED SIX MEN SUSPECTED OF BELONGING TO THE FARC'S TENTH FRONT. THIS FRONT IS NOTORIOUS FOR COCAINE PROCESSING ACTIVITIES IN THE ARAUCA TERRITORY OF COLOMBIA'S EASTERN PLAINS. THE RAID YIELDED STORES OF COCAINE AND MARIJUANA THAT THE SUBVERSIVES PLANNED TO EXCHANGE FOR WEAPONS, ACCORDING TO THE POLICE. AUTHORITIES ALSO SEIZED SEVERAL AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND A LARGE AMOUNT OF AMMO.

TWO ELN BEARING TERRORIST PLANS KILLED IN CALI

3. THE POLICE KILLED TWO ELN TERRORISTS ON JUNE 8 IN CALI, CAPITAL OF THE SOUTHWESTERN VALLE DEL CAUCA DEPARTMENT. THE TERRORISTS PERISHED IN A SHOOTOUT WITH POLICE AFTER THEY HIJACKED A TAXI AND BLEW UP FOUR BUSES IN THE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT OF EL PORVENIR, ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS IN THE PRESS. AUTHORITIES SEIZED A LARGE AMOUNT OF AMMO, TWO HOMEMADE BOMBS, ARMY BATTLE FATIGUES, COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, ELN PROPAGANDA PAMPHLETS AND OTHER SUPPLIES. THEY ALSO FOUND A
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SKETCHED MAP TITLED "OPERATION BLACK GOLD." THE MAP DEPICTS AREAS SURROUNDING THE ECOPETROL (GOC-RUN OIL COMPANY) FACILITIES IN NEARBY YUMBO MUNICIPALITY, AN AREA WITH ELN INFLUENCE. AUTHORITIES TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE MAP REVEALS AN ELN PLAN TO ATTACK THE ECOPETROL FACILITIES AND ABDUCT THE ECOPETROL REGIONAL MANAGER.

COMMANDER OF ELN FRONT ARRESTED IN THE NORTH

4. A UNIT BELONGING TO THE FIFTH ARMY BRIGADE CAPTURED THE COMMANDER OF THE ELN'S "CARLOS ORLANDO CACUA" FRONT, SEGISMUNDO HERRERA LIZCANO (AKA "LORENZO"), ON A HIGHWAY IN THE NORTHERN DEPARTMENT OF NORTE DE SANTANDER ON

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JUNE 11. THE "ORLANDO CACUA" FRONT IS ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE ELN UNITS IN THE NORTHEAST, SPECIALIZING IN BOMBINGS OF THE OIL PIPELINE AND POLITICAL ABDUCTIONS. DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND DRIVING A PRIVATE VEHICLE, HERRERA WAS ARRESTED AT AN IMPROMPTU ROADBLOCK SET UP BY THE ARMY UNIT. HIS CAPTURE LED TO THE ARREST OF TWO OTHER FRONT MEMBERS. IN REPORTS TO THE PRESS, THE UNIT COMMANDER SAID HERRERA AUTHORED THE ABDUCTION OF ANTHROPOLOGIST BRUCE OLSON (SEE BOGOTA 8760) AND RECENT KIDNAPPINGS OF NORTHERN MAYORS, CONGRESSMEN, JOURNALISTS AND CATTLE RANCERS. HE IS ALSO CHARGED WITH BOMBING THE CANO LIMON-COVENAS OIL PIPELINE IN THE NORTE DE SANTANDER AREA. THE ARMY SEIZED FROM HERRERA AND HIS COLLEAGUES SOME 15 MILLION PESOS (U.S. 40,000 DOLS.), SOPHISTICATED BOMBING EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING 12 DETONATION SWITCHES), A LARGE AMOUNT OF EXPLOSIVES AND WEAPONS, A LIST OF WOULD-BE ABDUCTION VICTIMS, AND A DETAILED MAP OF THE OIL PIPELINE.

MINISTER OF MINES ON ELN DESIGNS ON COAL/GOLD PRODUCTION

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5. IN A JUNE 8 INTERVIEW WITH REUTER, MINISTER OF MINES
AND ENERGY OSCAR MEJIA VALLEJO SAID THAT THE ELN
PROPOSES TO DESTROY EL CERREJON, ONE OF THE WORLD'S
LARGEST OPEN-PIT COAL MINES, IN NORTHERN COLOMBIA. HE
CHARGED THAT THE ELN WANTS TO DESTABILIZE THE DEMOCRATIC
PROCESS BY ATTACKING KEY PRODUCTION AREAS, INCLUDING THE
CANO LIMON-COVENAS OIL PIPELINE AND THE GOLD MINES IN
SOUTHERN ANTIOQUIA. MEJIA REPEATED HIS EARLIER
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE ELN CONTROLS BETWEEN 30 AND 40
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MEDIUM-SIZED GOLD MINES IN THE NORTHWESTERN DEPARTMENT
OF ANTIOQUIA. THE ELN SELLS ITS GOLD TO COLOMBIA'S
CENTRAL BANK THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES, AND USES THE
PROFITS TO FINANCE ITS TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, THE
MINISTER SAID. ALSO, FOR THE LAST 4 YEARS, THE ELN HAS
BEEN COLLECTING "WAR TAXES" FROM THE REGION'S MINE
OWNERS AND ATTACKING COMPANIES THAT RESIST ITS
EXTORTIONATE THREATS.
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